First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

http://www.hansoninc.com/experience-mapping-for-2014/

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.

March 22, 2015 10:00 am

Fifth Sunday in Lent

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP & LIFE TOGETHER: We invite you to participate in this community of faith. If you are a visitor for the first time, please fill out the welcome pad being passed around. We invite you to join us for Friendship Time (refreshments and conversation) at the conclusion of worship.

WE WELCOME CHILDREN so that they may come to understand the worship experience. Families are encouraged to talk about the parts of worship so children may understand and participate. During the worship service we have a time for children with the minister on the rug in the center of the worship space followed by Sunday school (September-May).

Hymns are found in the following books:
NCH *(Black, hardcover "New Century Hymnal")*
Sing! *(Black, softcover, "Sing! Prayer and Praise" songbook)*
ES *(Green, softcover "Everflowing Streams" songbook)*

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Invitation

All people are welcome to participate in this community of faith
If you have questions about becoming a member of this church, please speak with the Pastor or any member of the Community.

Prelude Steve McGhee

***Gathering Hymn** **"In the Bulb There Is A Flower"** **433 NCH** - Steve McGhee

Welcome Orin Brustad

Guests, please complete a Visitor Card and place in the offering plate so we may have a record of your visit.
We hope you will join us for Friendship Time and refreshments after the service.

Thank you for worshiping with us today!

Please rise in body or spirit as you are able

Announcements Orin Brustad

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Ringing the Bell

***Hymn** **"We Shall Overcome"** **570 NCH**

Lenten Candles

Meditation - Week Five Carol Hall

Unison Prayer

As Jesus offered up prayers and supplications to you, God, we cry out to you today. You know our losses and fears. You understand our suffering and pain. We wish to see Jesus, to know the healing touch felt by so many. We want to hear a reassuring voice. We long to see a new day when darkness is completely overcome and light prevails. Lift us up and draw us to you this morning. Equip us for our daily living and send us forth refreshed and prepared to do your work in your community. Amen.

Anthem **"I'll Follow My Lord/Santo, Santo, Santo"** FCC Choir

LISTENING FOR GOD

Old Testament Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34 Orin Brustad

Hymn **"Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child"** **136 NCH**

Children's Time *children are invited to come forward* Carol Hall

New Testament Reading Ephesians 3:11-19 Orin Brustad

Reflection **"Daily Work"** Carol Hall

***Hymn** **"Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn"** **107 NCH**

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

Prayers of the People Carol Hall

All are invited to offer a prayer, testimony, praise report or prayer request at this time. Please limit your sharing to one or two sentences and remember confidentiality issues.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Unison) -- Alternate Version Carol Hall

When we say the Lord's Prayer, please feel free to follow the traditional form or use language that feels comfortable to you, e.g. Mother, Creator, God, Friend, or Realm, Kindom, Wisdom.
Offering this prayer in unison brings us together and the words illustrate our common journey

Heavenly Father, Heavenly Mother,
Holy and blessed is your true name.
We pray for your reign of peace to come.
We pray that your good will be done.
Let heaven and earth become one.
Give us this day the bread we need, give it to those who have none.
Let forgiveness flow like a river,
from each one to each one to each one.
Lead us to holy innocence, beyond the evil of our days, Come swiftly Mother, Father, come
For yours is the power, and the mercy and the glory.
Forever your name is all in One.
Amen.

- Words Adapted by Parker Palmer

RESPONDING TO OUR CALLING

Invitation to the Offering (Unison) Orin Brustad

Loving God, in whose service there is both risk and honor, we want to see Jesus, not to prove a theory, but to experience a presence; not to observe from a distance, but to become involved; not just to listen, but to follow and to serve. Lead us beyond a quest for personal security to a passion for the lifting up of all human life to the promises of eternity. Amen.

Offertory Steve McGhee

***Doxology** **"Take My Gifts"** **562 NCH**

Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
Gave me light and food and shelter, Gave me life and set me free,
Now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,
Now the bread of love is rising, Loaves of love to multiply!

Prayer of Dedication** ***(Unison) Orin Brustad

We dedicate these offerings to the proclamation of your word, the teaching of your ways, and the living of your will for all humankind. We reach out with joy and gladness to offer your love to the world. May these gifts enable the sharing of your presence with many who have not experienced a sense of their own value as your children. As we keep our covenant with you, we also share its joys and obligations with our neighbors . Amen.

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

***Hymn of Departure** **" A Heart With Wings"** **Insert**

***Benediction** Carol Hall

One This is a vision of the way it can be, the way it should be.
Shouts of welcome, a joyful procession, a community celebrating together.

Many The same vision is offered to us today:
We can welcome Christ into our lives;
We can celebrate his transforming power.

One How swiftly things changed back then,
How swiftly we, too, can be distracted.

Many May we hold fast to his vision of goodness –
Peace from the practice of justice –
Equality from the practice of respect.

One As this week unfolds…

Many We will let ourselves be overtaken by God's love,
We will pour it back out into the world.

- adapted from Season of Lent/Easter, Jeanyne Slettom

Postlude Steve McGhee

(Please be seated for the Postlude)

Passing the Peace *Share a greeting with your neighbor as we transition to our snack.*

First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413
218 North Adams Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198
734-482-6980
website: www.ypsiucc.com

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God is still speaking,
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

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Our Volunteers	Today: March 22nd	Next Sunday: March 29th
Usher	Lyle Molter	Wayne Burling
Preaching	Carol Hall	Carol Hall
Worship Leader	Orin Brustad	Kelsie Molter
Worship Set-up	Donna Eyster	Glenda Horvath
Acolyte	Kelsie Molter	Lyle Molter
Friendship Time	Pot Luck after Meeting	Carol & Caroline
Sunday School	Ann Marie N-T	Glenda Horvath

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL MEETING OF FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC:

Call to Meeting
The 2015 annual meeting will be held on March 22, 2015 immediately following worship. A recommendation from council to extend a call for 1/3 time to Carol Hall will be brought to the congregation for a vote.
The proposed budget will be brought to the congregation for a vote as well.
Other business can be presented at this time.

MICHIGAN ONA COALITION MEETING: The coalition will be meeting at Edgewood UCC in East Lansing Saturday March. 28, 2015 at 10:00 am till Noon. We will be discussing the Equality Workshop, Speaker Bureau, Getting ready for Pride Festivals, and any other topics that need discussing.

CHOIR REHEARSALS: Choir rehearsal this week will be Tuesday at 6:30 PM Come, join the fun and try it out. We have a great time. Don't need to read music or have trained voice.

PASTORAL CARE EMERGENCIES: If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Glenda Horvath, 734-904-0420

CONGREGATIONAL CARE: Kindly remember in your prayers our members and friends who are sick and/or shut-in. Send a card or note to lift their spirits and yours as well.

Fran Pebbles' address: *American Homes Carpenter, 3470 Carpenter Rd., Apt 332, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Phone: 734-975-0987*

Sally Dusbiber's *address': Silver Maples of Chelsea, Room 1211, 100 Silver Maples Dr., Chelsea, MI 48118. Sally's direct phone line is 734-433-2396 and the Silver Maples line is 734-475-4111, x217.*

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY (WICIR): For information about what's happening with Immigrant Rights and ***Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights*****,** or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Margaret Harner at 734-483-3464 or through their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/WICIR .

MICHIGAN OPEN & AFFIRMING COALITION: For information about what's happening with **Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition,** or if you are interested in joining us, please contact Wayne Burling at 734-377-0696. More information can be found on their website http://www.mi-ona.org or on facebook at https://www.facebook.com/groups/onami/

WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION: "First Congregational is a co-founding institution of the new local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition).** In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. The diverse faith congregations and labor and community organizations that make up WeROC are, at our core, focused on intentionally reweaving the frayed fabric of community -- at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated and on our own. We are showing by example that people from many backgrounds and perspectives can, even today, come together in powerful ways around our common values and *actually change* unjust public policies. WeROC is a part of the S.E. Michigan organization MOSES and the national Gamaliel Foundation.
See Tad Wysor (tadwysor@gmail.com, 734 883 3225) for more on how First Congregational is connecting with current WeROC issues and actions.

OUR WEBSITE: http://www.ypsiucc.org Let Wayne know if you have any additional items to be added. He could use lots more pictures. Also check out and like our Facebook page. https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Congregational-United-Church-of-Christ-Ypsilanti/115695119913 .

KROGER FUNDRAISER: HAVE YOU *RE-REGISTERED* WITH KROGER!! Everybody that shops at Kroger and has a shopper's card ***MUST*** register. ***Last Year's registration expired May 1st*** and you are not getting credit for you purchases until you re-register for the current year.

Go to www.kroger.com and click "**REGISTER**". Follow prompts to register your frequent shopper card number. Then link to the **Community Rewards** site and register with our church. Our number is **83263**, or you can find our name in drop down list. Any questions contact Barbara Garland, bargarland@yahoo.com, 734-662-5803.